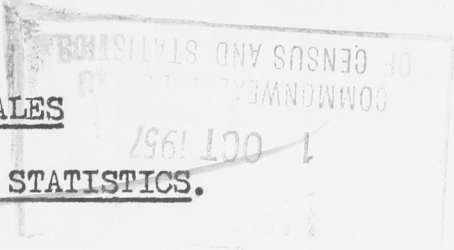


15th September, 1957

B.C.S. 1957/7

NEW SOUTH WALES  
DIGEST OF CURRENT STATISTICS.



GENERAL

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G E N E R A L = New South Wales

Mid-year statistics of employment, production, building and trade suggest that the slackening in business activity evident earlier in 1957 is being halted. Internal price and wage indexes remained fairly steady in recent months. Wool prices at the opening of the 1957-58 selling season were below the closing level of 1956-57 but began to recover later in September. Good rainfalls were experienced over most of the State in July and August but more is needed to bring on pastures and crops in spring.

PART I: EMPLOYMENT AND NON-RURAL INDUSTRIES

EMPLOYMENT - New South Wales and Australia (See also graph p. 101).

(The data in this section exclude defence forces and national servicemen; except for the C.E.S. series and unemployment beneficiaries they also exclude rural workers and women in private domestic service).

Employment decreases in factories and retail trade were responsible for the overall fall of 1,200 to 1,091,700 in New South Wales between May and June 1957. Small increases in railway staffs and in education and health services were the main factors in a continuing rise in Government employment during recent months, while private employment of 829,500 in June 1957 was below the peak of 834,800 of March 1957. The June employment total was 3,700 higher than a year earlier, as compared with increases of 16,300 between June 1955 and 1956 and of 34,100 between June 1954 and 1955. Australian employment declined from a peak of 2,797,800 in March 1957 to 2,789,000 in June, with decreases in all States, except Queensland where seasonal factors affected the trend.

N.S.W. : WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT - Thousands

Year and Month	Males	Females	P e r s o n s		
			Government	Private	Total
1939 - July	529.9	168.0	155.9	542.0	697.9
1951 - November	765.0	295.2	248.3	811.9	1,060.2
1954 - January	748.1	277.0	246.1	779.0	1,025.1
1955 - June	779.2	292.5	257.5	814.2	1,071.7
1956 - June	787.8	300.2	260.9	827.1	1,088.0
1957 - March	791.4	304.2	260.8	834.8	1,095.6
- April	788.3	302.6	261.0	829.9	1,090.9
- May	789.9	303.0	261.7	831.2	1,092.9
- June	789.5	302.2	262.2	829.5	1,091.7

Commonwealth Employment Service reports for New South Wales (including A.C.T.) for August 1957 indicate that the deterioration in the labour position of recent months is being arrested. The number of unfilled vacancies registered at the end of the month, 8,400, was the highest since March. In applicants registered for placement the number of women fell by 700 to 7600, partly seasonal and also because of staff increases in some factories. The closing of a coal mine in the Cessnock district and completion of work projects were largely responsible for the continuing rise in the number of male applicants, but the August increase of 400 was less than in recent months and about half of it was in employed men seeking a change of jobs. The number of persons on unemployment benefit in New South Wales reached 7,900 in the third week of August but fell back to 7,800 in the first week of September; of this figure coal miners in the Northern district were a large proportion.

End of Month	Commonwealth Employment Service N.S.W. & A.C.T.					UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS Recipients N.S.W.	
	REG'D FOR PLACEMENT, stating to be						
	Not at work	Seeking Job Change	T o t a l				VACANCIES UNFILLED
	P e r s o n s		Men	Women	P e r s o n s		
1951-August	4,300	4,300	5,700	2,900	8,600	58,900	100
1952-December	35,700	3,000	30,800	7,900	38,700	5,900	25,100
1955-August	5,400	3,600	4,700	4,300	9,000	22,500	1,000
1956-August	12,200	3,800	9,800	6,200	16,000	12,900	3,100
-June	19,200	4,400	15,300	8,300	23,600	7,900	6,200
-July	19,900	4,200	15,800	8,300	24,100	7,800	7,300
-August	19,500	4,300	16,200	7,600	23,800	8,400	7,900

An employment survey of larger privately-owned factories in New South Wales (undertaken by the Dept. of Labour and National Service and the Commonwealth Statistician) showed some recovery in August 1957 from the slackness of the four preceding months. Excluding food factories which more than others are subject to seasonal influences, overall employment which had fallen from 178,000 in March 1957 to 177,100 in July was back to 177,700 in August. This seems to have been due mainly to expansion in the steel, motor and television industries. Some other firms also reported improvement in demand but as against that slackness persisted in building materials, some sections of electrical and other engineering and clothing factories, where employment in August 1957 was well below the 1956 level. In August 1957, out of about 620 firms reporting, 62% kept their employment stable, 20% reduced it by retrenchment and 18% reported increases. About 23% of the firms worked overtime, that is the same proportion as in August 1956 but only one-half that of the end of 1955.

EMPLOYMENT IN LARGER PRIVATE FACTORIES SURVEYED - N.S.W. Thousand Persons

Industrial Group	Aug. '55	Aug. '56	March '57	June '57	July '57	Aug. '57
Building Materials	14.9	14.5	14.4	14.2	14.2	14.2
Basic Materials	31.6	32.9	34.9	35.1	35.3	35.5
Transport Equipment	20.4	20.4	19.5	19.7	19.6	19.7
Other Metal Mfrs.	47.7	46.3	48.2	47.4	47.4	47.7
Chemical Products	8.7	9.2	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.5
Clothing & Textiles	29.9	29.0	28.6	28.3	28.3	28.2
Food, Drink & Tobacco	19.8	18.8	21.0	19.2	19.0	18.8
Other Industries	22.8	22.6	23.0	23.0	22.9	22.9
Total : Men	149.6	148.5	152.0	150.6	150.6	150.8
Women	46.2	45.2	47.0	45.7	45.5	45.7
Persons	195.8	193.7	199.0	196.3	196.1	196.5
Total, excl. Food, etc.	176.0	174.9	178.0	177.1	177.1	177.7

WAGES AND EARNINGS = New South Wales

The upward trend of 1955 and 1956 wages and earnings came to a halt in early in 1957. The basic wage for men under State awards fell from £13.14.0 in November 1956 to £13.10.0 in February and £13.8.0 in May, 1957 (returning to £13.10.0 in August). The male rate under Commonwealth awards was increased from £12.13.0 in June 1956 to £13.3.0 in May 1957. The comparative steadiness in basic wage rates is reflected in the small change in nominal wage rates. The earnings series usually reaches a peak in December quarter when it includes bonus and other end-of-year payments, and the fall from £20 in that quarter of 1956 to £19.12.0 in June quarter 1957 is not significant in itself. But the seasonally adjusted index number of this series for Australia shows that over the half-year there was only a very small (compared with earlier periods) rise in the total index, and a slight fall in the manufacturing sub-series which was possibly due to reduced overtime.

WEEKLY WAGES AND EARNINGS - New South Wales - Adult Male Rates

Month of Change	Basic Wage, Sydney (State Awards). £ per week.	Quarter	Nominal Wage Rate Index, N.S.W. 1937-9 = 100	Average Weekly Earnings per Male Unit £ per week.
1950 May	6.18. -	1950 June	197	10. 1. 0
1954 May	12. 3. -	1954 June	326	16. 7. 0
1955 May	12. 3. -	1955 June	333	17 13. 0
1956 May	12.16. -	1956 June	349	18.11. 6
Nov.	13.14. -	Dec.	363	20. 0. 0
1957 May	13. 8. -	1957 June	363	19.12. 0

A comparison of proportional changes in the different series for June quarters shows that substantial rises in the first half of the period made the 1956-57 rates of increase of 4%-5½% about as high as those in 1955-56.

Percent. Increase June Quarters.	BASIC WAGE Men, Sydney	NOMINAL WAGE RATES Men	Women	AVERAGE EARNINGS Male Units
1946 to 1954	145%	143%	166%	142%
1954 to 1955	-	2%	1%	8%
1955 to 1956	5%	5%	5%	5%
1956 to 1957	5%	4%	4%	5½%

TRANSPORT SERVICES = New South Wales.

The summary of State transport statistics shown below indicates that the slowing down or halt in traffic expansion which was evident in 1955-56 continued into 1956-57. The rise in the number of motor vehicles on the State register was smaller than in recent years. Passenger traffic on the State railways, trans, buses and ferries declined and freight traffic by rail and air was less than in some recent years. However, the growth of passenger air traffic on interstate and oversea lines continued, and shipping traffic was well maintained mainly through the comparatively high levels of wool exports and oil imports.

SUMMARY OF NEW SOUTH WALES TRANSPORT STATISTICS

		Year ended June, or as at end June					
		1939	1945	1954	1955	1956	1957
<u>Motor Vehicles on State Register.</u>							
Cars	thousands	213	183	394	437	479	511
Lorries and Vans	"	77	83	210	224	239	252
Public Passenger Vehicles	"	5	5	8	8	8	8
<u>Traffic.</u>							
<u>Railways-Coaching-mill.</u>	mill.	187	254	279	281	281	264
passenger journeys.							
Goods (1)	mill. tons	15	18	19	19	18	18
Shipping-Cargo discharged	" "	6.1	6.2	8.2	9.3	10.0	9.5 P
Cargo shipped	" "	5.5	5.4	6.1	5.4	5.6	6.4 P
<u>Air Transport (2)</u>							
Passenger Journeys -	thousands	n.a.	142	1084	1205	1240X	1333 X
Freight & Mail Carried	000 tons	n.a.	3.3	34.2	36.6	38.2X	36.3 X
<u>Metropolitan Transport, Sydney &amp; New-</u>							
<u>castle.</u>							
State Tramways -	mill. pass. journeys	314	441	204	192	175	145
State Buses -	" " "	63	127	212	218	221	190
Ferries -	" " "	28	37	19	19	18	17

(1) Excluding Livestock; (2) All regular services with terminal in New South Wales.  
 X Twelve months ended December 1955 and 1956.  
 P. Preliminary.

GOVERNMENT TRAMS AND BUSES = Sydney and Newcastle.

Passenger traffic on Government trams and buses has declined each year since the end of the war when it exceeded 500m. passengers a year. The fall from 396m. in 1955-56 to 335m. in 1956-57 was particularly marked and evident in both the Sydney and Newcastle services; unlike earlier years it occurred in Sydney bus as well as tram services. Vehicle mileage also fell, although not quite to the same extent, and the 1956-57 total of 37.3m. miles for Sydney compares with 41½m. and 40m. miles in the two preceding years, while for Newcastle it declined from 6.3m. to 6m. miles.

Higher fares (as from 1/7/1956) more than compensated for the traffic fall during 1956-57 and the financial results were the best since 1948-49. In Sydney gross earnings very nearly covered working expenses while Newcastle showed a surplus which combined with Sydney left a credit balance of about £44,000 on the Operations Account, as compared with a deficiency of several million pounds during each of the preceding five years. Including other charges the 1956-57 overall deficiency on the State tramways and omnibus accounts was £1.2m., as compared with £4.1m. in 1955-56.

GOVERNMENT TRAMS AND BUSES - SYDNEY AND NEWCASTLE

Year ended June	PASSENGERS CARRIED	VEHICLE MILEAGE			OPERATING ACCOUNT			NET A/C BALANCE
		Sydney		Newcastle	EARNINGS	EXPEND.	BALANCE	
	Syd. & Newc.	Trams	Buses	Buses Ø	Sydney & Newcastle	Sydney	Newc.	Syd. & Newc.
	million	million miles			£	£ m i l l i o n		
1939	377	32.7	11.3	3.6	4.37	3.71	+ .62	+ .04
1949	496	27.7	23.8	7.6	8.74	8.58	+ .15	- .31
1953	418	18.1	24.4	6.5	11.53	14.24	- 2.50	- 3.60
1955	410	14.7	26.8	6.3	11.47	13.65	- 2.07	- 3.29
1956	396	12.0	27.7	6.3	11.07	14.02	- 2.76	- 4.14
1957	335	10.4	26.9	6.0	14.26	14.22	- .09	- 1.17

Ø Incl. tram mileage of 2.3m. in 1938-39 and 2.2m. in 1948-49. / Fares increased in Nov. 1948, Oct. 1950, Nov. 1951 and July 1956.

# NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS.

Passenger and goods traffic on the State railways in July 1957 was comparatively light, and gross earnings of £6.3m. were a little less than in July 1956. However, working expenses fell more, and the working surplus of £203,000 for the month compares with a deficiency of £81,000 in July 1956 and a surplus of £182,000 in July 1955.

## NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS

Year	Month of July -					Year ended June -	
	Passenger Journeys	Goods (excluding Livestock)	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Net (a) Earnings	Passenger Journeys	Goods (excluding Livestock)
	Millions	Mill. Tons	£'000	£'000	£'000	Millions	Mill. Tons
1939	15.3	1.33	1,555	1,183	372	186.7	14.68
1954	22.2	1.72	6,058	5,379	679	278.9	19.35
1955	23.0	1.63	5,868	5,686	182	281.4	18.67
1956	22.7	1.62	6,334	6,415	- 81	280.5	18.06
1957	22.2	1.57	6,287	6,084	203	264.1	18.14

(a) Excess of gross earnings over working expenses; excluding Government contribution.

## PORT OF SYDNEY.

The volume of cargo handled in the Port of Sydney in 1956-57 was less than in recent years. Overseas imports fell from 3.7 m. tons in 1954-55 and 3.1m. tons in 1955-56 to 2.6m. tons partly because of the increased quantities of oil now discharged at Botany Bay (which is not included in Port of Sydney). Total imports of motor spirit and other oil products into Sydney and Botany Bay rose from 2m. tons and 2½m. tons to 3m. tons in the three years. Overseas export shipments of wool and flour rose appreciably in 1956-57 but less wheat was shipped. The volume of intra-state imports, mainly coal, was well maintained but intra-state exports and inter-state trade was less than in recent year.

## SHIPPING CARGO IN THE PORT OF SYDNEY = Thousand Tons.

Year Ended June	OVERSEA		INTERSTATE		INTRASTATE		TOTAL	
	Inward	Outward	Inward	Outward	Inward	Outward	Inward	Outward
1939	2,045	1,429	1,187	798	1,896	340	5,128	2,567
1952	4,236	1,155	903	532	1,837	117	6,976	1,804
1955	3,687	1,331	987	700	2,000	46	6,674	2,077
1956	3,109	1,530	1,073	573	2,282	25	6,464	2,128
1957	2,633	1,538	978	483	2,384	20	5,995	2,041

## OVERSEA EXPORTS

## I M P O R T S

PORT STATISTICS Thousand Tons Year ended June	Sydney		Liquid Fuels, Oil etc.				Timber
	Wheat & Flour	Wool	Overseas		Interstate Sydney	Total	Overseas Sydney.
			Sydney	Botany Bay			
1954	377	459	1420	358	5	1783	298
1955	354	448	1340	443	67	1850	394
1956	447	498	1034	1186	291	2511	316
1957	303	540	836	2076	162	3074	319

## MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS = New South Wales (See also graph p. 102)

After the downward trend of 1956 new car registrations in New South Wales began to recover early in 1957, and the July total of 4,700 was 600 more than in July 1956 although still well below earlier years. The total number of cars on the State register increased by 33,000 to 514,200 between July 1956 and 1957, as against an increase of 40,000 in the preceding year. New registrations of lorries at the rate of about 2,000 in recent months remained a little below the 1956 and 1955 levels.

New South Wales	C A R S			LORRIES, UTILITIES & VANS		
	1955	1956	1957	1955	1956	1957
Monthly Average of New Registrations						
March Quarter	4,300	4,100	4,100	1,800	2,000	1,600
June Quarter	5,300	4,000	4,400	2,200	2,100	2,000
July	5,300	4,100	4,700	2,300	2,200	2,100
Aug/December	5,200	4,300		2,300	1,800	
Total on Register at End of July						
	441,200	474,200	514,200			253,500

NEW BUILDING = New South Wales. (See also graph p. 102).

(Figures for recent periods are subject to revision. Value figures exclude minor alterations and additions).

The recorded value of new buildings commenced in New South Wales continued to rise in the year 1956-57 and reached the record figure of £139m., as compared with £136m. and £124m. in the two preceding years. Increases over the two years were mainly in factory commencements. They totalled £17m. in July-December 1956 but fell to £9m. in January-June 1957. Commencements of business premises, although steady throughout 1956-57, were about £2m. less than in 1955-56 and the value of education and health projects also fell. The value of houses and flats commenced was £18m. in each of the first three quarters of 1956-57, rising to £21m. in June quarter, and the year's total approached the 1953-54 record of £75m. The value of houses and flats completed in 1956-57, £71m. was well below earlier years but high figures for factories and business premises lifted the total from £124m. in 1955-56 to the record figure of £133m. in 1956-57.

NEW BUILDING COMMENCED IN N.S.W. - Excl. minor alterations etc. - VALUE IN £m.

	Houses & Flats	Shops	Offices & Banks	Hotels etc.	Other Business	Fact- ories	Educa- tion	Other Building	Total
Year 1953-54	75.0	4.6	Ø	2.6	Ø	7.0	Ø	21.9 Ø	111.1
1954-55	72.6	4.8	Ø	3.6	Ø	11.2	Ø	32.2 Ø	124.4
1955-56	73.2	4.7	9.8	3.3	5.0	21.5	6.4	12.0	135.9
1956-57	74.9	4.6	7.2	2.9	6.1	26.1	4.5	12.1	138.5
June Quarter									
1955	18.4	1.2	2.2	1.0	1.2	2.2	.9	4.4	31.5
1956	17.2	.9	1.4	.9	1.8	6.1	1.5	3.2	33.0
1957	20.8	.9	1.3	.5	1.6	5.5	1.5	2.6	34.7

Ø Included in "Other Building"; no details available.

The quarterly average for the number of dwellings commenced in New South Wales fell from 7,100 in 1954 to 6,500 in 1955 and 6,000 in 1956 and recovered to 6,200 and 7,000 in March and June quarters 1957. The rise in the last quarter was particularly marked for Government projects which totalled 4,200 in the year 1956-57, as against 3,600 in 1954-55, while private dwellings declined from 21,700 to 21,000 over the year. The decline of recent years in house commencements by owner-builders continued, and they represented 40% of the total, as compared with 43% in 1955-56 and over 50% in some earlier years. Following the decline in dwelling commencements towards the end of 1955 completions fell sharply in the second half of 1956 but began to recover in June quarter 1957. The total of 23,100 for the year ended June was about 4,000 less than in 1955-56.

NEW HOUSE AND FLAT BUILDING = N.S.W. = NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS

Quarters	C O M M E N C E M E N T S			C O M P L E T I O N S			U N C O M P L E T E D (a)
	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1956-57
September	7,074	7,043	6,049	7,397	7,187	5,582	26,811
December	6,711	6,521	5,978	7,966	6,688	5,841	26,912
March	6,002	5,905	6,170	6,609	6,163	5,703	27,376
June	6,497	5,847	7,003	7,611	7,107	6,002	28,370
Year	26,284	25,316	25,200	29,583	27,145	23,128	

(a) At end of period; including some on which work has been suspended or abandoned.

In recent years about one-half of the houses completed in New South Wales have been of fibro construction; the proportion of brick houses fell from about one-third in the early post-war period to about one-fifth more recently with a corresponding increase in timber houses. The total number of occupied private dwellings in the State at the 1954 Census was 900,000. Completions since then will have brought this number close to one million.

Preliminary figures for Australia also show a slight recovery in dwelling commencements for June quarter 1957, but the year's total, estimated at 70,200 each for commencements and completions remained well below the level of recent years.

Quantity series for 83 factory items (not all included below) show that production in June quarter and July 1957 was mostly maintained or increased, as compared with the early part of the year, but that for about 30% of the items it was below the level of the same period of 1956 and for about two-thirds of them it was below the peak level of earlier years. Among major basic items, production of electricity, gas, iron, steel and cement has continued to expand and this also applies to motor bodies and engines. Output of building materials, such as timber, bricks, tiles and fibrous plaster has begun to recover from its decline in 1956, but the current output level of many types of building fittings and appliances, e.g. stoves, heaters, refrigerators and radios, has remained below last year's level. Production of textile and clothing items in March-July 1957 was generally well maintained as compared with 1956, with a continuing shift in spinning and weaving from woollen and worsted to cotton, rayon and other synthetic and mixed fibres. In the food group production of jam, cheese, preserved vegetables, biscuits and confectionery has been relatively high this year. Production of butter and wheat products was affected by adverse seasons. Beer production, after a decline in 1956 and early 1957, showed signs of recovery in June quarter and July 1957.

## FACTORY PRODUCTION = New South Wales

	Unit	Year ended June					March-July		
		1939	1952	1955	1956x	1957x	1955	1956x	1957x
Gas	m. therm	58.4	106	111	113	116	29 <del>4</del>	30 <del>4</del>	30 <del>4</del>
Electricity	m. kWh.	2.0	4.6	6.0	6.5	7.0	1.5 <del>4</del>	1.7 <del>4</del>	1.8 <del>4</del>
Pig Iron	m. tons	1.11	1.22	1.67	1.78	1.88	.52	.62	.68
Ingot Steel	m. tons	1.17	1.47	2.16	2.33	2.83	.71	.84	.99
Sawn Timber (Native)	m.s.ft.	179	381	373	363	375	126	117	132
Cement	000 ton	432	594	811	829	907	273	276	327
Bricks, Clay	million	379	355	383	375	354	129	123	130
Tiles, Terracotta & Cement	million	20.1	43.0	40.0	39.6	38.0	12.7	13.0	14.2
Fibrous Plaster Sheets	m.s.yd.	2.7	5.0	6.0	5.6	5.1	2.0	1.8	1.8
Paints, Lacquers, Enamels	m.gall.	n.a.	4.4	5.7	5.9	5.9	1.5 <del>4</del>	1.5 <del>4</del>	1.4 <del>4</del>
Hotwater Systems -									
Storage (all types)	thousands	n.a.	28.7	26.7	25.7	25.7	8.7	9.0	8.7
Stoves, (excl. stovettes)	thousands	38.9	57.5	70.1	64.3	57.6	24.8	17.4	16.3
Elc. Washing Machines $\emptyset$	thousands	n.a.	23.1	71.6	74.2	68.4	24.2	25.1	26.4
Refrigerators $\emptyset$	thousands	13	101	172	115 <del>6</del>	110	26	26	23
Radio Receivers	thousands	125	211	284	274	245	84	84	78
Internal Combustion									
Engines	thousands	2.2	22.5	17.3	48.7	95.7	7.3	18.2	20.0
Electric Motors	thousands	27	452	882	800	686	264	205	264
Motor Bodies	thousands	5.4	9.3	26.8	32.2	33.7	10.3	11.3	12.8
Bicycles	thousands	36.4	28.7	28.3	27.7	25.9	9.7	6.9	8.5
Woven Cloth -									
Woollen & Worsted	m.sq.yd.	12.4	10.4	8.7	8.2	7.5	2.0 <del>4</del>	2.0 <del>4</del>	1.7 <del>4</del>
Cotton	m.sq.yd.	n.a.	13.1	16.0	16.8	17.1	4.2 <del>4</del>	4.5 <del>4</del>	4.8 <del>4</del>
Other	m.sq.yd.	n.a.	6.9	9.2	9.2	14.5	2.4 <del>4</del>	2.7 <del>4</del>	4.4 <del>4</del>
Men's Suits	thousands	n.a.	343	319	322	318	77 <del>4</del>	79 <del>4</del>	77 <del>4</del>
Women's Cardigans etc.	000 doz.	n.a.	101	139	142	149	55	50	51
Hosiery - Men's	000 doz.prs.	535	377	415	365	407	134	132	120
- Women's	000 doz.prs.	520	464	641	600	647	181	217	223
Boots, Shoes, Sandals	mill. prs.	4.8	6.2	7.0	6.9	7.8	2.3	2.4	2.6
Jam	mill. lbs.	20.6	29.3	22.4	22.9	25.3	6.3	6.0	8.2
Wheaten Flour	thous. tons	547	563	561	549	608	194	199	189
Bacon and Ham	mill. lbs.	26.0	27.9	26.2	25.5	22.8	8.3	7.2	7.2
Biscuits	mill. lbs.	43.6	76.7	73.1	77.1	75.7	25.5	25.7	26.2
Confectionery	mill. lbs.	n.a.	60.1	55.8	57.7	62.8	21.0	21.5	22.2
Beer	mill. galls.	33.9	66.8	88.1	93.3	92.9	28.2	26.6	28.4

x. Subject to revision.  $\nabla$  June quarter.  $\emptyset$  Household type.

COAL PRODUCTION = New South Wales and Australia (See also graph p. 102)

Black coal production in all producing States, excepting Victoria and Western Australia was at or near peak level in 1956-57, and the Australian total of 19.7m. tons was about 800,000 tons higher than in 1955-56 and 400,000 tons more than in the previous record years of 1953-54 and 1954-55. Open-cut production and underground production on the Northern and Western fields of New South Wales tended to fall during the current year but this has been more than outweighed by expansion on the Southern field following the industrial development in that area. The New South Wales share in total Australian black coal output has been about 77% in recent years. Australian coal exports rose from 194,000 tons valued at £780,000 in 1955-56 to 540,000 tons worth £2.17m. in 1956-57. Brown coal production in Victoria continued to expand, reaching a record of 10.8m. tons in 1956-57.

COAL PRODUCTION - AUSTRALIA - Thousand Tons

Year ended June	Average 1937-39	1954	1955	1956	1957 (b)
B l a c k C o a l					
New South Wales	10,273	14,926	14,599	14,554	15,230
Queensland	1,184	2,597	2,777	2,659	2,748
Western Australia	572	950	975	872	842
Victoria	310	144	141	124	116
Tasmania	91	244	280	297	283
South Australia	...	470	494	450	524
Total Australia -					
Underground	(a)	16,239	16,610	16,744	17,667
Open Cuts	(a)	3,072	2,656	2,212	2,076
T o t a l:	12,430	19,331	19,266	18,956	19,743
B r o w n C o a l					
Victoria	3,573	8,750	9,668	10,383	10,784

(a) Practically all from underground workings. (b) Subject to revision.

New South Wales coal production in the first eight months of 1957 reached 10m. tons, as compared with 9.6m. in the corresponding 1956 period.

PART II: FINANCE AND TRADE.

MAJOR PRIVATE TRADING BANKS = Australia. (See also graph p. 102)

The seasonal fall of £84m. in Australian bank deposits between March and August 1957, was light when compared with the £100m. or more for that period of recent years. This was largely due to the recent steadiness and growth in interest-bearing deposits from £278m. in August 1956 to £331m. in 1957. Current deposits of £1001m. in August 1957 though £45m. more than a year earlier were not above the 1955 or 1954 level. After recovery from £725m. in March 1957 to £771m. in July bank advances fell back to £762m. in August, or £25m. less than a year earlier. No Special Accounts were released in 1957 to match the seasonal fall in deposits. Comparing the relationship of assets to deposits in August 1957 with earlier years, the advances ratio of 57% was substantially less than in that month of the three preceding years while the Special Accounts and liquid assets ratios were correspondingly higher.

MAJOR PRIVATE TRADING BANKS - Business within Australia.

Average of weekly figures	Deposits at Credit of Customers			Advances to Customers	Central Bank Special Accts.	Public Securities	Treasury Bills	Cash Items	Ratio to Deposits		
	At Interest	Other	Total						Advances	Special A/c	Cash & Securities
	£ million								Percent.		
1954-Aug.	253	1,004	1,257	739	292	120	32	65	59	23	17
1955-Aug.	264	1,000	1,264	820	232	110	22	67	65	18	16
1956-Mar.	259	1,075	1,334	776	264	119	92	66	58	20	21
-Aug.	278	956	1,234	787	223	116	29	68	64	18	17
1957-Mar.	313	1,103	1,416	725	283	188	92	60	51	20	24
-Jul.	329	1,021	1,350	771	300	159	19	59	57	22	18
-Aug.	331	1,001	1,332	762	300	158	17	60	57	23	18

SAVINGS BANKS = New South Wales and Australia.

Savings bank deposits in July 1957 rose by £2.7m. in New South Wales and by £7.7m. in Australia, mainly through the continuing growth of the private savings banks. During the twelve months ended July 1957, savings deposits rose by £34.6m. to £424.9m. in New South Wales and by £85.6m. to £1235.1m. in Australia. Practically all of this increase in New South Wales and 78% of the increase in Australia was in deposits with the private savings banks.

	SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS - New South Wales and Australia - £million						
	NEW SOUTH WALES			AUSTRALIA			
	C'wealth Savings Bank	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks	C'wealth Savings Bank	State Savings Bank	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks
	Deposits at End of Month						
July 1955	360.4	-	360.4	695.2	385.5	-	1080.7
July 1956	362.7	27.6	390.3	705.9	391.3	52.3	1149.5
May 1957	356.3	56.9	413.2	699.9	393.1	109.9	1200.9
June 1957	363.4	58.8	422.2	714.8	400.9	111.7	1227.4
July 1957	362.9	62.0	424.9	715.8	401.2	118.1	1235.1
	Rise : July to July						
1954-55	18.5	-	18.5	41.0	12.0	-	63.0
1955-56	2.3	27.6	29.9	10.7	5.8	52.3	68.8
1956-57	.2	34.4	34.6	9.9	9.9	65.8	85.6

Statistics now available for the assets of the Australian Savings banks show that out of a total of £1292m. in July 1957, £709m. or 55% were invested in Commonwealth or State Government securities, £202m. or 16% in Local or Semi-Governmental securities, £203m. or 16% in advances and £178m. or 13% in cash and other assets. Between July 1956 and 1957 advances rose by £21m. or 11% and securities by £51m. or 6%.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS = New South Wales  
(Excluding Government accounts at city banks and Central Bank transactions).

Money turnovers in New South Wales, as indicated by bank debits, during the first eight months of 1957 were about 12% higher than in the corresponding 1956 period. This was largely due to the increased value of overseas trade transactions.

**WHOLESALE TRADE = New South Wales**

(Goods sold at wholesale by traders registered under the Sales Tax Act)

The expansion of wholesale turnovers (as indicated by Sales Tax returns) eased appreciably in 1956-57. The seasonal sales increase between March and June quarters 1957 was lighter than usual, and the turnover for the year ended June 1957 was only 3% higher than in 1955-56, as compared with annual rises of 10%, 12% and 17% one, two and three years earlier.

**WHOLESALE SALES, Taxable and Exempt Goods, N.S.W. (Traders reg'd. under Sales Tax Act.)**

Quarter	T O T A L   S A L E S				C H A N G E   O V E R   P R E V I O U S   Y E A R				
	1953-54	54-55	55-56	56-57	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
	£ m i l l i o n				P e r c e n t.   I n c r e a s e (F a l l -)				
September	204	227	269	269	- 16%	15%	12%	18%	-
December	215	241	264	269	- 11%	17%	12%	10%	2%
March	207	234	239	262	- 3%	15%	13%	2%	9%
June	226	253	275	280	- 4%	20%	12%	9%	2%
Year	852	955	1047	1080	- 9%	17%	12%	10%	3%

**P R I C E S = Australia** (See also graph p. 102)

The upward trend of the Australian wholesale and retail price indexes of the first nine months of 1956 came to a halt towards the end of the year, and there was little change in the first half of 1957. The previous rises in the price of potatoes and onions were reversed but this was partly offset by increases in other components of the two series. Rising wool prices in 1956-57 reversed the fall in the export price index of the two preceding seasons, and the import price index continued to advance slowly.

**P R I C E   I N D E X E S   =   A U S T R A L I A**

Quarter	Retail Price (1)		Wholesale Price		Export Price, incl. gold	Import Price (Cwth. Bank)
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)		
	B a s e   Y e a r   1 9 5 2 - 5 3   =   1 0 0					
June 1955	105	105	102	103	87	103
June 1956	111	109	109	107	83	106
Dec. 1956	114	113	111	108	91	108
June 1957	115	115	107	108	95	n.y.a.
	P e r c e n t a g e   C h a n g e   J u n e   Q u a r t e r   t o   J u n e   Q u a r t e r					
1946 to 1954	+ 105%	(c) n.a.	+ 123%	+ 122%	+ 202%	+ 88%
1954 to 1955	+ 2%	+ 2%	+ 3%	+ 2%	- 10%	+ 2%
1955 to 1956	+ 6%	+ 5%	+ 7%	+ 4%	- 5%	+ 2%
1956 to 1957	+ 4%	+ 5%	- 2%	-	+ 15%	+ 4%(d)

(1) Interim Retail Price Index, All Groups, Six Capital Cities. (d) March quarters 1956-57.

(a) Including and (b) Excluding potatoes and onions. (c) "C" Series Retail Price Index.

The average retail price of potatoes which had risen from 79d per 7 lbs. in June quarter 1956 to 118d in September quarter fell back to 43d in March quarter and 46d in June quarter, 1957. In the Interim Retail Price Index the Food series, excluding potatoes and onions, rose from 111 in June quarter 1956 to 113 in the March and June quarters of 1957, but increases in the Clothing, Rent and Other Items series were larger, and the total index (excluding potatoes and onions) advanced by 5% over the year, or at the same rate as in 1955-56. The total index, excluding potatoes and onions, for the capital cities was as follows in June quarter 1957 (percent. rise over year shown in brackets): Adelaide 111 (2%), Brisbane 112 (4%), Sydney 115 (7%), Melbourne 115 (3%), Hobart 119 (4%), Perth 120 (4%).

**INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX - SIX CAPITAL CITIES - Year 1952-53 = 100**

Quarter	Food		Clothing & Drapery	Rent	Other Items	ALL GROUPS	
June 1956	115(a)	111(b)	103	120	110	111(a)	109(b)
Sept. 1956	120(a)	112(b)	104	121	116	114(a)	112(b)
March 1957	113(a)	113(b)	106	123	119	114(a)	114(b)
June 1957	114(a)	113(b)	108	125	119	115(a)	115(b)

(a) and (b) see above.

The recovery in the Australian Export Price Index (1936-37 to 38-39 = 100) from about 400 in the first half of 1956 to 450 in July 1957 was due mainly to higher wool prices. Excluding wool (which has a weight of 46 out of 100 in the aggregate index) the index fell from 352 at the end of 1955 to 329 in July 1956, and has remained near that figure since. Substantial rises in prices for sugar and smaller ones for wheat, meat, butter and dried

The Australian Wholesale Price Index (1936-37 to 38-39 = 100) reached a peak of 347 in September 1956 and, after a decline to 340 in May 1957 was back at that level in July 1957. Higher wool prices lifted the textile series by 14% between July 1956 and 1957, and the building materials series rose by 5% over the year, but the other components remained steady or declined during the period.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX - Australia - 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100 - New Series.

Month	Textile	Metals	Building	Food &	Rubber &	Goods Principally		ALL
	Fibres	& Coal	Mater's.	Tobacco	Hides	Import	Home Prd.	
Peak	Mar. '51	Sept. '52	July '52	Aug. '53	Mar. '51	May '52	Aug. '53	GROUPS
1951-53	907	399	435	336	362	302	360	Aug. '53
July 1955	486	397	398	329	307	281	355	335
July 1956	461	410	444	330	314	301	360	333
July 1957	524	399	467	333	283	305	364	343
								347

(The series for Oils, Fats and Waxes and for Chemicals have been omitted).

NATIONAL INCOME = Australia.

(Commonwealth of Australia, National Income and Expenditure 1956-57, presented to Parliament with the 1956-57 Budget. Figures are subject to revision; those shown in brackets are tentative only.)

Australian national income for the year ended June 1957 is estimated at £4686m. or £277m. more than in 1955-56. The percentage rise of 6.3% compares with increases of between 6½% and 7% in the four preceding years. The Australian population rose at the rate of 2½% in 1955-56 and 1956-57, and increases in the interim index of retail prices were 4% and 6% and in the wholesale price index 7% and 3% respectively, so that it appears that there was little change in income per head at constant prices in both years. Because of comparatively large increases in depreciation allowances and indirect taxes the rise in gross national product from £4902m. in 1954-55 to £5279m. in 1955-56 and £5643m. in 1956-57 was greater than the increase in national income.

Farm income and more specifically income from wool has been the major variable item in national income during post-war years. Farm income fell from £572m. in 1952-53 to £447m. in 1954-55, remained practically unchanged in 1955-56 and recovered to about £509m. in 1956-57, following the heavier wool clip and rise in prices which far outweighed a fall in the value of the wheat crop. As a percentage of total income farm income with 11% in 1954-55, 10% in 1955-56 and 11% in 1956-57 remained much lower than in earlier years. In contrast to farming the wage, profit, rent and interest components of income have risen at a steady but diminishing rate in recent years. Wages and salaries rose by 6% to £2807m. in 1956-57, as against a rise of 9% in 1955-56. Average earnings in both years rose by about 6% but the rise in the number of persons employed came to halt during 1956-57. The rise in company and other business and professional incomes in 1956-57 was also a little less than in recent years.

NATIONAL INCOME & PRODUCT	1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
	£ m i l l i o n					
Wages, Salaries	445	2083	2248	2439	2659	2807
Company Income	84	378	473	518	530	(545)
Farm Income	45	572	499	447	449	(509)
Other Busin. & Profess. Income	100	406	435	476	507	(520)
Surplus of Govt. Undertakings	31	8	29	35	29	46
Net Rent and Interest	92	163	183	209	235	259
NATIONAL INCOME	797	3610	3867	4124	4409	4686
Indir. Tax, less Subsidies	90	411	465	509	550	614
Depreciation Allowance	43	185	225	269	320	343
GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT	930	4206	4557	4902	5279	5643

The rise in gross domestic expenditure of £44m. to £5467m. in 1956-57 was not as great as in recent years. Personal consumption and expenditure by public authorities continued to rise appreciably, but aggregate private investment was about 20% less than in 1955-56, mainly because of a reduction in farm stocks (in particular wheat) and a cessation of accumulation of non-farm stocks which had amounted to £110m. in 1955-56 and £180m. in 1954-55.

Investment in new dwellings, motor vehicles and other capital equipment all fell a little during the year while the value of new commercial building continued to rise. Out of an estimated total of £1013m. spent by public authorities in 1956-57 £492m. was for works and development, £183m. defence and £166m. for education and health. During the past four years about 18% of total domestic expenditure was through public authorities, 60% to 65% went into personal consumption and most of the balance to investment.

NATIONAL O U T L A Y	1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
Gross Private Investment:	£ m i l l i o n					
New Dwellings	28	160	170	194	194	184
Other Building	19	83	86	105	142	163
Trucks, Utilities, etc.	9	58	66	79	85	77
Motor Cars & Cycles	20	109	142	178	181	176
Other Capital Equipment	37	241	276	306	321	313
Total Fixed Capital	113	651	740	862	923	913
Non-Farm Stocks	10	- 170	60	180	110	(..)
Farm Stocks	- 10	31	23	- 2	27	- 46
Total Private Investment	113	512	823	1040	1060	867
Personal Consumption	669	2538	2802	3096	3327	3529
Public Authorities	118	859	825	893	983	1013
Financial Enterprises	9	40	42	47	53	58
GROSS DOMESTIC EXPENDITURE	909	3949	4492	5076	5423	5467
Income Paid to Non-Residents	39	65	82	84	91	96
O'sea Lending (Borrowing -)	- 18	192	- 17	- 258	- 235	80
GROSS NATIONAL OUTLAY	930	4206	4557	4902	5279	5643

All the major income groups shown below shared in the rise of £271m. or 6½% in personal income during 1956-57, and the percentage distribution of 63% for wages incomes, 11% farmers' incomes, 15% business incomes, 6% social service benefits and 5% rent, interest, etc. was about the same as in the two preceding years. The increase of 6% in total consumption expenditure during 1956-57 seems to have been largely the result of higher prices. The main components under this heading were food 26%, clothing 13%, tobacco, beer etc. 11%, hardware etc. 10% and rent 8%; the proportions for clothing and hardware fell during the past two years while those for food and tobacco (affected by rises in excise) and for rent increased. The larger proportion for rent reflect the growth of home building, imputed rent for owner-occupied dwellings having increased from £178m. in 1955-56 to a total of £202m. in 1956-57 as against a rise of £6m. to £92m. for net actual rent. Revised figures for 1955-56 show that the previous fall in personal savings was halted in that year, and there was a further rise in 1956-57. Expenditure on new dwellings and cars, which is included in this item, declined in 1956-57 but the expansion of hire purchase and other consumer debt (which is a deduction from savings) slowed down and more money went into assurance and into savings banks.

PERSONAL INCOME & OUTLAY	53-54	54-55	55-56	56-57	38-39	54-55	55-56	56-57
I n c o m e	£ m i l l i o n				Percentage Distribution			
Wages, Salaries, Milit. Pay	2248	2439	2659	2807	62%	62%	63%	63%
Income of Farmers	526	467	444	(511)	6%	12%	11%	11%
Dividends, Bus. & Prof. Inc.	533	593	632	(650)	15%	15%	15%	15%
Cash, Social Serv. Benefits	224	242	271	285	4%	6%	6%	6%
Rent, Interest, O'sea Remitt.	164	184	201	225	13%	5%	5%	5%
TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME	3695	3925	4207	4478	100%	100%	100%	100%
O u t l a y								
Consumption Expenditure	2823	3118	3351	3556	90%	79%	80%	79%
Direct Taxes	424	393	422	443	5%	10%	10%	10%
Balance "Personal Savings"	448	414	434	479	5%	11%	10%	11%
Total PERSONAL OUTLAY	3695	3925	4207	4478	100%	100%	100%	100%

In the international account the striking improvement in the trade position during 1956-57 led to a surplus of £80m. on the current account, after two years of substantial deficiencies. Apart from higher exports this was aided by rising income from Australian investment abroad, freight earnings abroad and port spending by foreign shippers and other credits, which exceeded continuing increases in freight costs paid abroad and Australian earnings of foreign investors.

Foreign borrowing and repayments by Australian Governments nearly balanced in 1956-57 but private capital inflow of £133m. (nearly a third of it in the form of undistributed profits retained in Australia) was the highest for five years, and the rise of £211m. (to a total of £567m.) in international reserves was the highest on record.

INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS	1938-39	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
Current Transactions			£ m i l l i o n			
Imports	109	510	682	847	820	717
Other Debits	75	253	259	298	321	333
Total D e b i t s	184	763	941	1145	1141	1050
Exports and Gold	137	863	828	778	788	996
Other Credits	29	92	96	109	118	134
Total C r e d i t s	166	955	924	887	906	1130
Financing of Balance						
Public Auth. Borrowing	4	35	- 5	14	36	- 2
Private Capital Inflow	- 11	- 38	31	102	126	133
Decrease, Internat. Res.	25 18	-189 -192	- 9 17	142 258	73 235	-211 -80

Ø Net lending and accumulation of reserves shown as (-)

RETAIL TRADE = Large Sydney Stores

Turnovers in large Sydney stores throughout the year 1956-57 had been about equal to or less than the corresponding sales figures for 1955-56 but in July 1957 were 9% above 1956. This seems at least partly due to the one more trading day in July 1957 but may also indicate some recovery from the comparatively low sales figures of earlier months. Stock values continued to decline and in July 1957 were 5% less than in July 1956 and 7% less than in July 1955.

LARGE SYDNEY STORES - Percentage Changes Compared with Previous Year

	V A L U E O F S A L E S				V A L U E O F S T O C K (End of Period)			
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1954	1955	1956	1957
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
March Quarter	+ 7	+ 4	+ 4	-	+ 4	+ 12	+ 1	- 1
April	+10	+ 5	+ 2	-1	+ 6	+ 10	+ 5	- 3
May	+11	+ 5	+ 1	-1	+11	+ 9	+ 4	- 4
June	+ 8	+ 4	- 1	-8	+12	+ 9	+ 2	- 3
July	+ 5	+ 4	- 2	+9	+13	+ 10	- 2	- 5
Seven Months	+ 9	+ 4	+ 1	-				

#### NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS

Comparing July-August 1957 with 1956 revenue from tax reimbursements and State taxation rose, making a total increase in Governmental revenue of £2.5m. to £19.8m. At the same time Governmental expenditure rose by £1.2m. to £18.7m. Revenue from the business undertakings was a little lower and expenditure higher, leaving a deficiency of about £900,000 on working account for the two months of 1957, as compared with a deficiency of £400,000 in 1956 and a surplus of £900,000 in 1955. Gross loan expenditure of £7.6m. in the two months of 1957 was appreciably higher than in recent years.

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS - In £millions

REVENUE	July and August			EXPENDITURE	July and August		
	1955	1956	1957		1955	1956	1957
Tax Reimbursements	8.2	8.7	9.4	Net Debt Charges	3.0	3.4	3.7
State Taxation	4.6	5.0	6.7	Other, excl. above			
Other Governmental	3.5	3.6	3.7	Governmental	12.4	14.1	15.0
Total Governmental	16.3	17.3	19.8	Total above	15.4	17.5	18.7
Railways	11.5	11.3	11.2	Railways	10.8	12.0	12.2
Tram & Bus Service	1.9	2.3	2.2	Tram & Bus Service	2.0	2.2	2.2
Sydney Harbour	.6	.5	.5	Sydney Harbour	.3	.3	.4
Total Business	14.0	14.1	13.9	Total Business	13.1	14.5	14.8
Total Revenue	30.3	31.4	33.7	Total Expenditure	28.5	32.0	33.5
GROSS LOAN EXPENDITURE ON WORKS & SERVICES					5.8	5.3	7.6

# SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE

Under firm demand share prices in Sydney rose appreciably in July and the first half of August and since then have remained steady. The series for industrials, 75 companies and 34 active shares for August were 13% higher than a year earlier and the highest for about six years. Pastoral and insurance shares rose even more, and retail shares in August 1957 also partly recovered from the low level of recent months.

## INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - SYDNEY - (Compiled by N.S.W. Govt. Statistician)

	Manufacturing & Distributing	Retail	Pastoral Finance	Insurance	Total 75 Companies x	34 Active Shares
	Par Value = 100					
1955 - August	441	426	264	596	324	325
1956 - August	405	376	250	608	300	304
1957 - March	434	363	265	690	314	316
July	448	361	290	737	329	332
August	457	369	305	770	339	342

x Incl. other series

LIFE ASSURANCE = NEW BUSINESS = New South Wales and Australia.

The post-war growth of new life insurance business continued in 1956-57 when the value reached the record of £143m. in New South Wales, as compared with £128m. in 1955-56. This rise was confined to policies issued in the ordinary department. The number of ordinary policies issued in 1956-57, 109,000 was less than in recent years, and their average value rose from £931 in 1955-56 to £1185 in 1956-57. However, because of the inclusion of group insurance in the ordinary department these figures do not give a clear picture of the average value of individual policies. New loans granted by insurance companies, mostly on the security of mortgages, had fallen from £25m. in 1950-51 to £16m. in 1953-54 and then rose again to £25m. in 1956-57.

## LIFE ASSURANCE - NEW BUSINESS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Year	Ordinary Dept.		Industrial Dept.		Total Sum Assured on New Policies	New Loans Granted /
	No. of Policies	Sum Assured	No. of Policies	Sum Assured		
	'000	£mill.	'000	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.
1939	50.5	18.2	156.8	7.5	25.7	n.a.
1952-53	107.8	83.7	100.8	13.7	97.4	20.9
1953-54	111.3	90.3	89.8	12.6	102.9	16.1
1954-55	108.1	104.4	89.0	13.5	117.9	23.0
1955-56	123.4	114.9	86.3	13.5	128.4	24.3
1956-57	109.0	129.1	85.0	13.5	142.6	25.1

/ Excluding Advances on Premiums.

The expansion of life assurance in Australia is indicated by the figures shown below.

## LIFE ASSURANCE = AUSTRALIA (Excl. Government Offices of N.S.W. & Qld.)

Year	New Policies Issued ∅	Policies ∅ Matured etc.	Premium etc. Receipts	Claims etc. Paid	New Loans Granted /
	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.	£mill.
1953-54	287	102	70	29	34
1954-55	325	116	77	33	52
1955-56	367	134	84	37	57
1956-57	425	145	92	40	60

∅ Excluding Annuities. / Excluding Advances on Premiums.

## PART III : RURAL INDUSTRIES

THE SEASON = New South Wales (See also graph p. 101)

During August good rainfalls were recorded in coastal districts of the State and lighter falls inland. Although the general seasonal outlook has improved in recent months more rain is needed to replenish water supplies and to stimulate pasture growth and development of crops.

RAINFALL INDEX, NEW SOUTH WALES, "Normal Rainfall" = 100 for each period.

	Sheep Districts					Wheat Districts				Coastal Dairying Districts			
	N	C	S	W	Total	N	C	S	Total	N	C	S	Total
1956													
Jan. - July	195	234	236	276	224	190	224	244	205	148	174	207	159
Aug. - Dec.	74	81	114	69	88	69	72	121	98	67	63	77	67
1957													
Jan. - May	82	60	56	59	67	84	61	60	64	62	75	39	63
June	54	38	80	115	64	55	34	82	66	31	28	74	36
July	65	100	147	69	102	65	115	141	125	124	94	223	129
August	90	89	79	40	81	76	101	59	72	224	242	255	233

N: Northern. C: Central. S: Southern. W: Western.

## DAIRYING.

The winter drop in New South Wales dairy output this year was greater than usual, and affected mainly butter production. Supplies to the Milk Board and to factories for processing into cheese and other products were well maintained.

## WHOLEMILK - PRODUCTION AND USE - NEW SOUTH WALES

Year	(1)		(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	BUTTER		CHEESE	MILK BOARD	PROCESSED	OTHER	WHOLEMILK
	Factory Output			DELIVERIES	MILK	USES	All Purposes
	m. lbs.	m. lbs.	million gallons				
1954-55	87	179.8	5.6	68.6	11.6	50.1	315.7
1955-56	92	193.7	7.4	73.3	16.8	46.0	337.2
1956-57 P	76	162.1	8.9	76.2	18.3	40.1	305.6
July - 1955	3	7.0	.3	6.0	.6	3.8	17.7
1956	3	6.6	.4	6.4	.9	3.3	17.6
1957 P	3	5.9	.5	6.4	1.0	3.3	17.1

- (1) Weight converted at rate of 2,075g. per lb. (2) 1 gall. equal to 1 lb.  
 (3) Wholemilk delivered to Board. (4) Used for condensed etc. milk.  
 (5) Including fresh milk not sold through Board, and farm butter and cheese.  
 P Preliminary.

Reduced output in New South Wales and Queensland in the year 1956-57 led to a fall in Australian dairy production from 1405m. gall. in 1955-56 to 1356m. gall. Butter production fell in all the main producing States, reducing both exports and local consumption, but cheese production rose and other factory use and fresh milk consumption remained comparatively high.

## DAIRY PRODUCTION = AUSTRALIA.

Year	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'ld.	Sth.Aust.	Others	Total
WHOLEMILK = ALL PURPOSES = Million Gallons						
1938-39	311	378	347	73	80	1,189
1951-52	241	447	181	86	96	1,051
1954-55	316	537	276	91	106	1,326
1955-56	337	577	282	90	119	1,405
1956-57 P	306	587	254	88	121	1,356
BUTTER = FACTORY OUTPUT = Million lbs.						
1938-39	114	128	155	17	22	436
1953-54	67	143	94	17	29	350
1954-55	87	178	103	19	34	421
1955-56	92	203	108	19	39	461
1956-57 P	76	198	92	19	40	425

100 L (See also graph p. 101)

Wool deliveries into the Sydney, Newcastle and Goulburn stores in July and August 1957 were exceptionally heavy with a total of 309,000 bales. Usually between 15% and 20% of the season's clip are delivered in the first two months. Sales in New South Wales did not open until September.

RECEIPTS AND DISPOSAL OF WOOL = New South Wales Stores, excluding Albury

	1954	1955	1956	1957		
		Total N.S.W.		Sydney	Newcastle & Goulburn	Total N.S.W.
Quantity in Thousand Bales						
Carry-over from June	21	26	19	32	6	38
RECEIPTS, July-August	293	283	259	241	68	309
Total	314	309	278	273	74	347
DISPOSALS, July-August	40	48	72	5	-	5
BALANCE IN STORE at end of May	274	261	206	268	74	342
Value of Sales in £ million						
July and August	3.6	3.5	6.0	.5	-	.5

Although widespread demand was evident again at the opening sales of the 1957-58 season in Australia prices during the last week of August and first week of September fell below the closing level of 1956-57 by up to 13% for the finer grades and less for cheaper types. However, the market strengthened towards the middle of September and prices began to move up a gain.

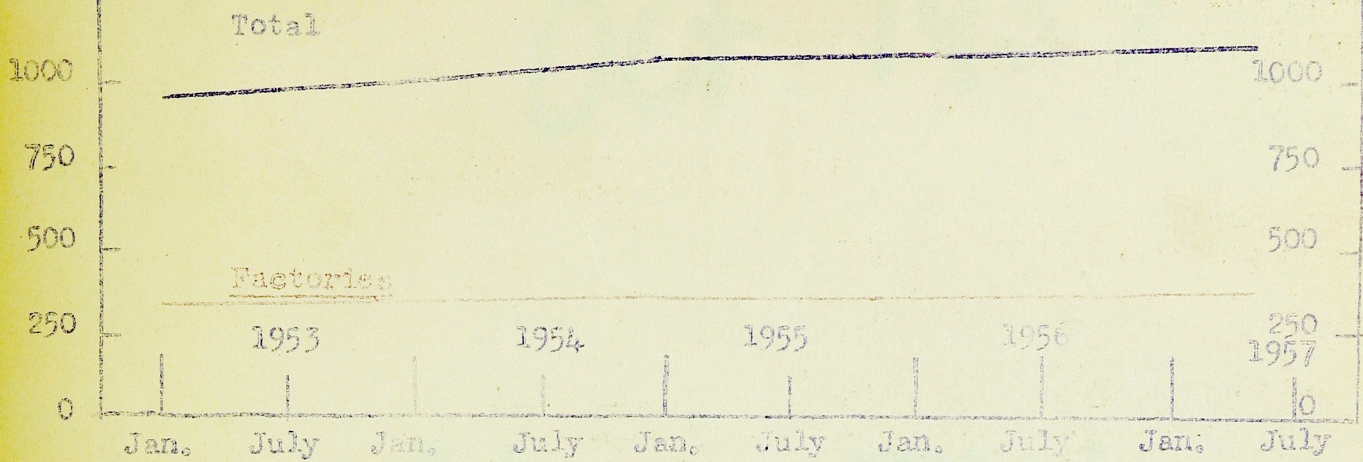
AVERAGE PRICE OF GREASY WOOL - NEW SOUTH WALES - Pence per lb. Greasy

Season ended 30th June	d. per lb.	Month (a)	1953-54	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58
			Pence per lb.			
1951	145.3	July	85.0 ø	67.0 ø	65.0	79.0 ø
1952	76.5	August	84.0 ø	60.0	69.0	73.0 ø
1953	85.1	Sept.	83.0	58.0	75.0	
1954	81.8	Feb.	77.0	61.0	81.0	
1955	70.6	May	82.0	66.0	83.0	
1956	61.6	June	82.5	67.0 ø	79.0	
1957	80.5					

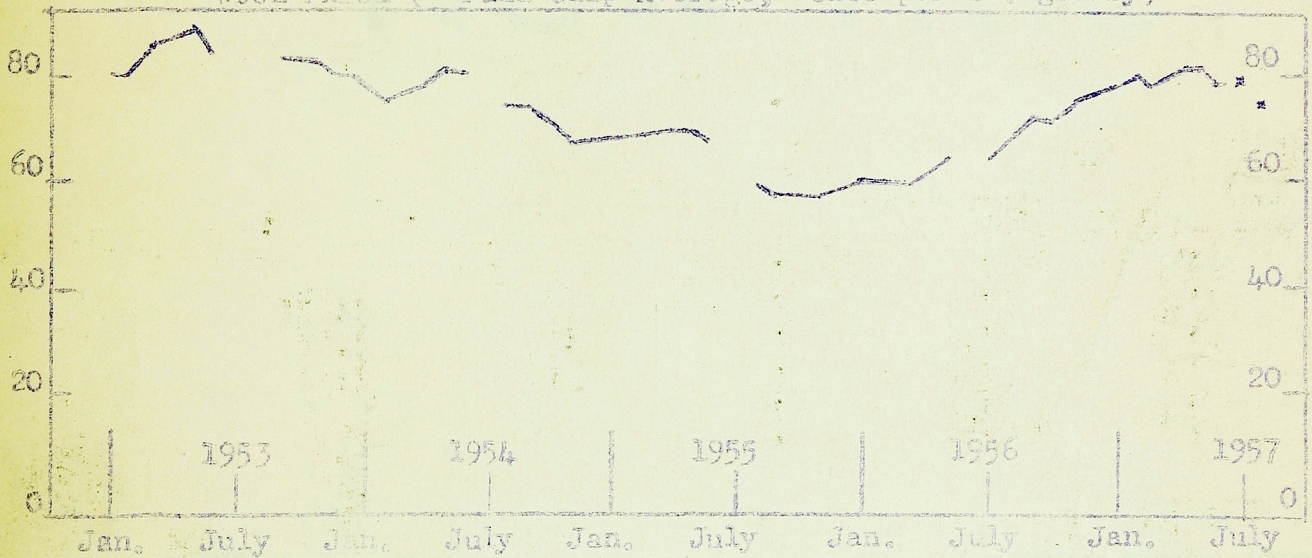
(A) Average that would be realised if whole clip were sold at price level of the month named. ø Nominal.

NEW SOUTH WALES - MONTHLY STATISTICS.

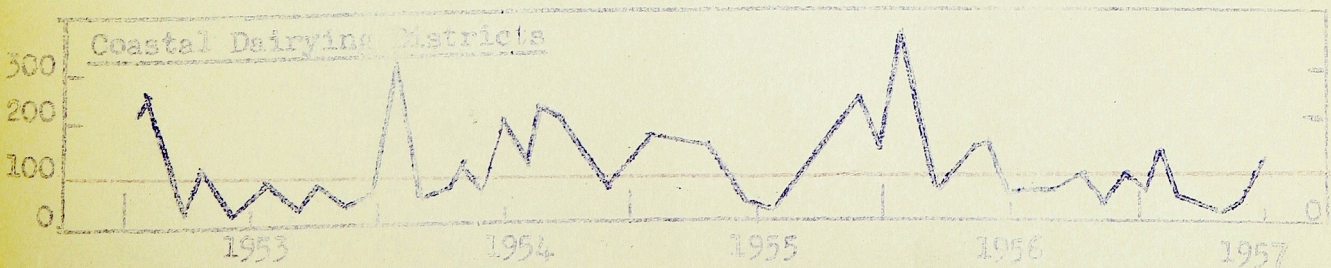
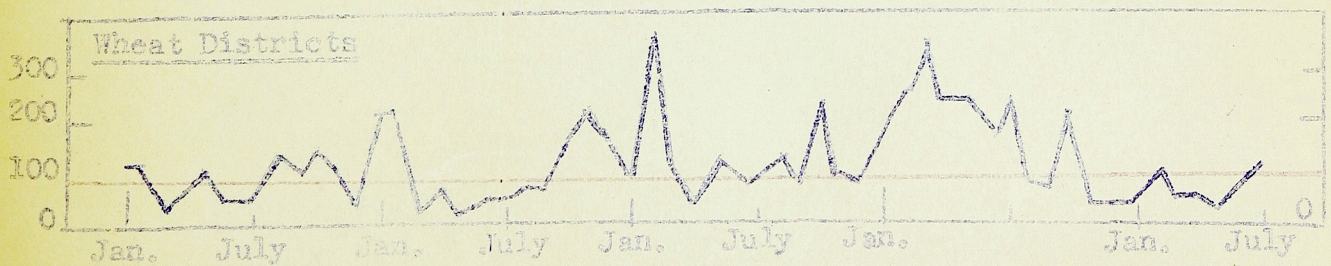
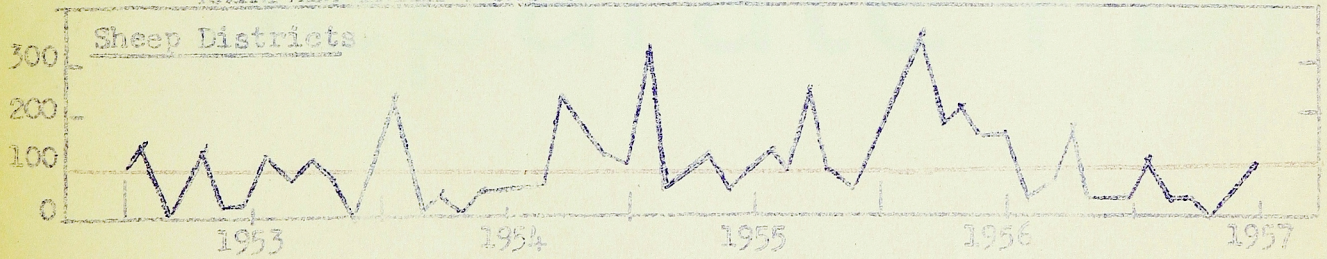
EMPLOYMENT (excluding Rural Workers & Domestics) - 000 Persons



WOOL PRICE ( Full-Clip Average, Pence per lb. greasy)



RAINFALL INDEX : Normal Rainfall for each month = 100



Series start in January, 1953, and go up to August 1957.